

JAN 24 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that farmers and ranchers
2 are vulnerable to natural disasters. In 2018, farmers and
3 ranchers suffered through floods from severe weather state-wide
4 and volcanic eruptions on Hawaii island. The University of
5 Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources
6 reported a total of \$27,900,000 of farm losses caused by the
7 Kilauea eruptions, and the National Weather Service estimates
8 farmers on Kauai and Oahu reported losses of \$19,700,000 due to
9 severe weather. Agriculture disaster recovery efforts need to
10 be carried out quickly and efficiently to ensure that damaged
11 farm infrastructure, crops, and land are restored as soon as
12 possible.

13 The purpose of this Act is to financially support the local
14 farmers and ranchers who have experienced losses caused by
15 disasters, through grants and loans.

16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



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1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for
 2 the department of agriculture to provide grants and loans to
 3 ranchers and farmers through a state-wide agriculture disaster
 4 funds program.

5 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 6 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act..

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

8

INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 1148

Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Agriculture disaster funds;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the department of agriculture to provide grants and loans to ranchers and farmers negatively affected by natural disasters through an agricultural disaster funds program.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

